NO. 23.

### THE MOHAVE MINER.

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### THE MEXICAN FLUTE.

A Plea for the Revival of a Tuneful and

"There is no doubt about it," said William Ronnberg, the venerable flute-maker, shak ng his white head mournfully, "flute-playing among amateurs has gone out of style. Worse than that; it has become an object of r'd'eule. The man who plays the flute for amusement is laughed at; he is regarded as a sort of Miss Nancy, and his friends make sly remarks about his lowering rents in his neighborhood. The versemakers write what they think are funny lines about the toot of the flute, and so, after taking all th'ngs into consideration, the boy or young man with a taste for music and a desire to learn some musical instrument is actually laughed

musical instrument is actually laughed out of beginning to play one of the best parlor instruments that are made.

"But what does he learn instead, in nine cases out of ten?" continued the old gentleman. "Why, either the earsplitting cornet or the musicless banjo. Think of that! instead of an instrument like the flute, with its soit, west numical tones, he takes a beast swert musical tones, he takes a brass nulsance and blows his lungs out trying to get mus'e out of it. Lowering rents, in-leed! Well, Idon't want to be neighbor to the young man who is playing the cornet. The banjo isn't quite as bad, but what music there is in its pink-a-pink-a, p'nk-a-punk, I don't know.

Mr. Ronnberg spoke with the warmth of a part'san. He pretends to be nothing else. He has been making flutes

ing else. He has been making flutes more years than most men live, and looks back with regret to the days of 54, when he employed a shopful of men, and turned out flutes by the score. Those were the days when it was thing for young men to play the German flute, as the loor, six and eight-keyed flutes were called. Those were the days when professional flute players were abundant and excellent. The old man no longer makes German flutes, but in his little hop he still makes Boehm flutes, apparently quite as skillfully as he ever did.

"It is just possible," he continued,

did.

"It is just possible," he continued,
"that the Bochm flute has something to
do with the decrease in the popularity
of the flute, although it is almost treaon to say so. The Bochm is a perfect
instrument, immeasurably superior to
the old flute. It is also very much more
the old flute. It is also very much more
the old flute. It is also very much more
the old flute. expens've, costing all the way from a hundred and fifty dollars upward. It is also more complicated in its mechan-ism, although much easier to play, and herefore more l'able to get out of order. And here comes the point I want to make. An amateur buys a Bochm flute and enjoys it. About the time he has it well in hand it gets out of order. A mere triffe perhaps. The maker could fix it a minute. But the owners tinkers with it, gets it worse, takes it to the first music store he sees; they tell him they'll have it fixed; they send it to some flute 'inker, and the result is, too often, the sent it at once to the maker, even from a d stance, his flute would have come back better than ever. And so it comes

about that you will find in not a few homes Bochm flutes that cost a good sum lying dried up and useless, all for want of a little care.
"It is now the fashion to revive old tyles. Why doesn't some one revive playing? There is no instrument nore perfectly fitted for the parlor. Accompanied by the piano, or the harp, or the guitar, or even the banjo it is very plensing. There is much excellent ic arranged for the flute and p'ano, and when you take two flutes and piano, ach well played, then you have music indeed."—N. Y. Sun.

### SUGGESTIONS ON HATS.

How They May Be Looked Upon as Ex-ponents of Character.

'Tis the hat that makes the man and vant of it the fellow. Not that the enire absence of hat is necessary to mark the fellow-that is indicative of the sayage. It is want in the sense of a shortoming in the headgear that makes the fellow. The lower a fellow falls in the ocial scale the more glaring do these hortcomings grow. As he climbs up from fellowship to manhood the more loes his head-thatching coincide with the standards of taste. It is shown even in the extremest case—that of the savage. The moment the dawn of civilization breaks upon him he breaks for a hat. Generally it is a battered speci-400 Balsan Fir, 8 to 4 in.
40 3 to 4 in. tpd
40 4 4 10 5 in.
40 4 4 10 5 in. onent of his first groping, tottering steps out of barbarism can be imagined than the utter incongruity of the big chief's appearance in a cast-off hat of a previous fashionable age. The negro in the rougher regions of the South be-trays a similar condition of imperfect development by the worn and well-ventilated slouch hat that has deopped down to him through many years and social layers. In the swamps he wears none, and his mattel locks are like the coarse hat smacks of the gutter and the barroom floor. It is not necessary to smell the branch and other boddy odors of the wreek who approaches one on the supplicating whine. One glance at his hat and his whole history can be writ-

What character there is in a hat! How the Maxican's curious mixture of dash and lasiness is portrayed in his broad sombrero! Of equal expanse but diametrically opposite e lect is the qu'et brood brim of the Quaker. How much of the fierceness of war's grim-visaged front was due to the spiked belimits of the soldiery. Stern immebility is writion all over the huge hear sking of the Imperial guard, while cat-like agility and adaptability flutter from the sausy cap and tassel of the zonave. No sares ents in your own State or County, write to insight into national character can be obta'ned than that afforded by the broad, flat, board-like hat of the Chinaman, that has been the same for cen'uries, awkward, uscless and essentially artificial,

years. His eyes were worn with looking for incoming vessels, and his mental perceptions were in much the same state of mental col'apse; despotic and erotche'y in his family, carcless and scornful of the world, he was a relic of the past half century. But to one she saw him no lame explanation was necessary. It's hat told the whole story. Tall and straight in the crown, worn in the nap, and narrow in the brim, during all his hermit life it never left his head except when he slept.

Just why there is so much character in the hat is a little difficulty to explain. It must be because the hat is largely independent of a man's surroundings and

ndent of a man's surroundings and work, and is, therefore, an exponent of the man himself. There are occupations and situations in which old, dirty and torn clothes and muddy shoes seem un-avoidable; but nothing less than a Presidential fishing execution will warrant a respectable man in wearing a dilapipated hat. The perfect hat, correct in color, shape, weight and material, worse at just the right angle, caps the personal appearance of the self-poised, perfect man. Tipped forward over the nose, it denotes the rowdy. Tilted backward, it tests of a hurrying reckless character. Slouched to one side, it betrays goodnatured, underbred humanity trying to put its best foot forward. Punched in at the top, it marks absent-mindedness. There is no article of apparel that so combines all the others into an effective un't for good or ill. There is none in which a little false taste can more completely ruin an otherwise faultless out-fit.—N. Y. Tribune.

### FACTS ABOUT SHRIMPS.

Their Great Importance in the Iscon bensible Economy of Nature. If you take a portion of the compoun eye of a bluebottle or a butterfly, clear it from the p'gments and fit it to the microscope, you will find that any thing which is seen through it will be multiplied in proportion to the number of facets which come within the field of rision. Does, then, the creature see

many images or only one? There has been much controversy reas it is called from the resemblance of the lenses to the little squares of Mosaic work. I think, however, that there can be no doubt on the subject. If we, who have two eyes, only see a image, there is no reason why the two hundred or even two thousand enses should not have the effect of pro-

ecting a single image upon the optic nerve of the shrimp. Now for the gills, which are substitutes for lungs.

If you will lift up the carapaca, you will see on each side a row of white. feather-like objects, closely pressed against the sides. These are the gills, against the sides. These are the golfs, which, to all intents and purposest, resemble those of the fishes. In the lobster they are popularly known as "ladies" fingers." In the sea, where the water is always in motion, the surimp has no trouble in breathing, but in the still water of an a parison the creature still water of an a marium the creature is obliged to keep some of its foot jaws in rapid motion, so as to drive a current

Another question. Of what use is the shrimo except to be eaten with tea and bread and butter?

Here we find that the creature plays no unimportant part in cosmic economy. The sea is filled with living reings, myrads of which die daily. Unless ne means existed by which their dead bodies could be removed the water would be polluted and unable to see life. So the shrimp forms part of the great army of scavengers which has been appointed for the purification of the sea, and although individually it may seem to be insignificant, it is col-lectively of the highest importance and could not be spared without disturbing the whole economy of nature. - Argosy.

CARELESS BLASTING. The Wise Decision Rendered by a Call-forn's Supreme Court Justice. Judge Foote of the Californ'a Su-

dreme Court has just rendered a decision

in a suit brought to dec'de the l'ability for damage done to adjacent property by careless blasting, and not only the conclusion he reaches reems to cover damage of any kind done to a neighboring property through improperly executed building operations of any kind, whether by blasting, undermining of "carcely a book had been published in party walls, defective shoring or what- the country on agriculture, hordculture ever else. As the case, Colton vs. Onerdonk, was carried up from the court below, where the plaintiff got a verdict which was only slightly cut down in the Supreme Court, it is a good one to re-member. In giving his opinion Judge Foote said that the fact that the defendant had used gunpowder in blasting in a lot adjoining other buildings not be-longing to him must be taken as showng that the defendant had made as unreasonable and unnatural use of he own projerty, which no care or skill in so doing can excuse him from being re-sponsible to the plaintiff for the damage he actually did to he dwelling-house as the natural and proximate result of his b'a-t'ng." This does not at all mean that it is unlawful or improper to fire blasts where there is a possibil ty o working injury to a lioning property it only emphasizes the fact that the are certain acts, I super and lawfor enough in themselves, which are never theless, inal enably connected with mor or less defin to risks, and that the per sons who perform these acts can not be by having obtained legs ab olved l'eense, for instance, so to do from full responsibility to the injured par for any damage he may suffer throug such acts. Judge Foote go's ever further than this, and holds that "or act which in many cases is in itself lav ful becomes un'awful when by it dan age has accrued to the property of a other." It may seem a little peculic that a lawful act can ever become ur lawful, but as any one in five minute can think of a dozen lawful acts whice are puni-hable at law, if they have bee unlucky as to cause damage to an one we have no rea on to doubt the learned Justice is absolutely in t right; at any rate, what he says is sen

nflicted by more things than gunpov

-American Architect

### 'FLOWERS AND TREES.

Reliable Directions for Preserving Them Gather the flowers only on dry, sunny

days, when as free from stmo-pheric moisture as possible. As most wild flowers and all delicate ferns droop and wither if carried in the hand, the best plan is to place them one by one be-tween the leaves of a book as soon as gathered. If a book has not been provided for the purpose place the flowers between layers of moss, damp round the stems, but dry round the blossoms. Carried thus in a basket or botanical case they will keep fresh for some hours, but as soon as possible they should be placed in water and allowed should be placed in water and allowed to stand in a moderately warm room for an hour or two before being pressed, in order to dry off any moisture they may have contracted against the moss. The reason for being particularly careful as to their dryness is, that upon that largely depends their retaining their color. If pressed when damp they invariably become discolored, or have a faded appearance. Those in the book may be left there for an hour or two, if not convenient to attend to them at once, but the sooner, they are put into blotting-paper the better. Arrange carefully, and regulate the pressure according to color and texture. Ferns can not be too firmly pressed, and yellow and purple flowers also stand great pressure; but red or yellow-tinted leaves, such as those of the wild geranium, and all flowers of succellent texture. leaves, such as those of the wild geranium, and all flowers of succulent texture,
require to be more lightly pressed, othcrwise they lose their color. Most
flowers and ferns are the better for
having the blotting-paper changed at
least twice during the eight or ten days
required for pressing them perfectly.
This is best done by placing a dry sheet
above them, taking hold of it and the
sheet upon which they are lying, turning over quickly the two thus held, so
bring ag the damp sheet uppermost,
then carefully removing that. Should
any leaf or blorsom he inclined to adhere to the paper, a slight tap on the here to the paper, a slight tap on the back will generally suffice to loosen it; if not, it must be removed with the fingers. Then place two dry sheets above and one underneath that upon which the flowers are. On changing a second time, one over and one under will suf-fice. Primroses, violets, wood sorre and several other delicate flowers and all very fragile ferns such as the young fronds of the oak and beech, form an fronds of the oak and beech, form an exception to this rule, and must not be removed from the first sheet upon which they are laid down until they are perfectly dry; otherwise they will curl up, and it will be found impossible to lay them flat again. Two dry sheets may, however, be laid above and one unterneath the sheet they are on. Moss, it pressed immediately in the moist state it usually is in when gathered, need not be changed from the papers in which it is first laid. But if allowed to dry, and then re-wet for pressing, it must be puinted dry papers next day. Any thek sh paper will do to press it in. The press consists of two pieces of hardwood, two or three dozen pieces of millboard, cut to the same size, or a fracboard, cut to the same size, or a fracwhite blott ng paper. There is no appreciable advantage gained by using totanical paper, and blotting paper is more readily obtained. Before using the paper she sun or before a fire, but not use! wh'bt still hot. Each layer of flowers or leaves should have from four to thicknesses of paper, and then placed between two pieces of mill board. Two strong leather stra, s. connected for convenence sake inceled for conven ence sake by a handle, like rag straps, give the necessary pressure. If still a greater degree than they give when drawn as tightly as possible is desired, two wedges may be inserted between the drap and the wood. When removed from the areas the flowers and leaves from the press, the flowers and leaves should be kept in a book for awhile before being exposed to the air. - London

CHANGES IN FARMING.

Tact, Sill and Information As great changes have taken place in the management of farms during the a t fifty years as in trade, manufacturing and transportation. Less than half a century ago the average farmer was a plodder. He pursued the beaten path which his ancestors had so long trott. or the raising of animals. There was no agricultural fournal worthy of the name, and no period cal devoted to horiculture or dairying. The maxims in 'Poor Richard's Almanae' constituted most of the agricultural literature with which the farmers were nequainted Most of the information obtained by farmers was trad ti nary. Crops were planted, cultivat sl and harvested in the -ame manner year after year. There was only one way to p rform any oper-at on on the farm. There were no ma-chines for doing any kind of farm work: only hand implements were employed in the field and garden, and these were of a very primitive style. The black-smiths and carpenters in the nearest town made nearly all the farming tools. Many farmers repaired their awn tools, and if they were ingen'our made many of them. The wood-lot on the farm

furnished materials for making hand es to plows, frames for improws, as well as for rakes, or vokes and bows, Most of the improvements on the farm were made from articles which it supplied. The first buildings were supplied. The first build age were made of long out in the forest. The fields were inclosed by stone walls or fences made of rails. Bars were used ustend of gates, chiefly for the reason that they required no hinges or latches Tile dra ning was unknown, and if a t remained a permanent me careely any att mpts were made change the patural condition of the soil. The value of rotating crops was not appreciated or understood. Manure was nows to be useful, but no commer dal ertilizers were employed for enriching so'l. No attention was given to the cultivation of small fruits and if ber-ries were used by the farmer's family they were gathered in the fields or woods. Seedling apples were almost

the only kind of fruit produced on the only kind of fruit produced on farms. There was no market for mith and cream except in the vicinity of large towns. Creameries and cheese factories were unknown. Butter and cheese were made in nearly every farm house in quantities sufficient to supply the occupants. The first object of every farmer was to supply his family with food produced on the land he occupied. He had but little to sell, and accordingly he could buy but little.

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The modern farmer may get along with doing leas work with his hands than the farmer of the generations that preceded him, but he must do more brain work. He must know more, read more, think more and consider more. Farming has become a very complicated business. More knowledge, judgment and skill are required in order to succeed in it than were needed even a few years ago. The farmer of to-day is something more than a producer. He must be a successful merchant in order to make money. For improving a prairie farm almost every thing must be purchased. The only matural product of a piece of prairie land is a sod that must be subdued before any thing but grass can be raised. Instead of destroying a forest the prairie farmer must set about raising one. To this end he must buy trees or setd that will produce them. He must invest quite heavily in machines, and great judgment is required to decide how many and what kinds to buy. Unless he has quite large means he must invest quite heavily in machines, and great judgment is required to decide how many and what kinds to buy. Unless he has quite large means he must invest quite heavily in machines, and great judgment is required to decide how many and what kinds to buy. Unless he has quite large means he must hire money, and if he does not make a judicious loan the chances are that he will be financially ruined. Many farmers loss their places while attempting to improve them.

As the modern farmer has so many things to buy, he must raise much to sell, or the "balance of trade" will be fined to the place of trade" will be sell, or the "balance of trade" will be

As the modern farmer has so many things to buy, he must raise much to sell, or the "balance of trade" will be against him and he will fall. If he has hired moneyhe must make arrangements to meet his indebtedness. He must be a financier as well as a producer and a merchant. He must keep himself informed in respect to the State of the market at home and abroad. In order to do this he must become acquainted market at home and abroad. In order to do this he must become acquainted with the condition of the crops in all parts of the world. He must also study to find out the demands of the market so as to know what to raise. He must not, however, neglect to sapply his family and help with food to the fullest extent possible. He must be prepared to substitute new crops for those he has long raised when for any cause their production ceases to be profitable. If he raises articles for which there is little demand, he will be obliged to sell them at a very low price. He must exhibit as much shrewdness and enterprise in supplying what the market demands as successful manufacturers and merchants do. He must read and study as well as work. Intelligence is essential to success in farming now that it has become a complicated bu siness.

At the present time much knowledge and excellent judgment are required to determine who of several levels of

At the present time much knowledge and excellent judgment are required to determine which of several breeds of horses, cattle, sheep and swine to keep. Each breed has its advocates, who from prejudice, real admiration or personal motives, are presenting its claims on all occasions. The fashion changes in relation to live stock as it does in regard to articles of dress, and the breeder who expects to make money must endeavor to ascertain when any kind of animal is going out of style and another is coming into fashion. The preference for different bree is of domesticated animals different bree is of domesticated animals changes with as much certainty as the fashions for hats of a peculiar chape, if it does not change quite as often. A stock-ra'ser must now give much aftention to determining the feeding value of the different kinds of grasses, clovers and roots. He must also find out by experiment or by visiting furnes where periment or by visiting farms where siles are in use the value of ensilage for feeding to dairy cows, store eattle and animals in process of faitening. short, the time the farmer once gave thrashing small gra'n with a flail and shelling corn by hand must now be given to reading and study.—Chicago

# WHEAT SOWING.

Some Facts Taught by a Farm Experi-

During our farm experience of twenty years, every year of which we have raised wheat, we fancy we have learned one or two things; that is for a light or sandy soil, though as a matter of fact a sandy is heavier than a clay soll. One of the things we have learnt is to plow the oat stubble as soon as possible after harvest. Oats in our rotation always precedes wheat and timothy seeding. Whether farm manure is spread or not, our wheat seems to be benefited by a light dressing of a complete fertilizer just before sowing. The land is then rolled and harrowed. For several years we rolled both before and after seeding. but were convinced that it is not a go thing to do. The rolled surface bakes and causes the rain, instead of sosking directly into the soil, to form gutters and to run in little streams here and there. It also appeared that wheat rolled after se sling did not stand the waters so well, being killed out in

who can rationally advise farmers in general as to the quantity of wheat that had best be sown per acre? We can not. Some wheats tiller little, others a good deal. The amount of seed wheat must be determined accordingly. Is your land light or heavy, well or improvements desired, and a chory toor. perfectly drained, rich or poor? Every farmer must consider these questions for himself and sow accordingly. From careful experiments made years ago, we settled upon one and a balf busicis to the acre for either Clawson. Silver Chaff or Fultz. - Rura' New Yorker.

On the ground letween the railroad tracks near the Pennsylvania coal shed below the station at Harrisburg, a whippoorwill has built-a nest and reared her brood. Cars and engines pass within a foot of the nest almost every minute of the day, yet she was not the least fright-ened. The other day a well-known en-Pincer, who e engine was taking coal, saw the mother b rd and the nest, in the bitter an egg. When he returned in the evening the egg was gone and in its place a little bird, the mother of which fad it, while a numl or of people watched the process. The kind-heartest rail-roaders wa'on the nest, and when the you g brds fly on the track they put them back again. - Patteburgh Post.